

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4287
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 05550

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, PFOR, PARM, DA
SUBJECT: DANISH PROPOSAL ON ARMS CONTROL

REF: USNATO 4137

1. DANISH PERMREP SVART INFORMED CHARGE JUNE 16 THAT COPENHAGEN SUPPORTED HIS SUGGESTION (REFTEL) TO HAVE THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF COMPILE A STATUS REPORT ON PRESENT WESTERN ARMS CONTROL ACTIVITIES FOR SUBMISSION TO THE NAC AS A BASIS FOR POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION IN NATO OF ADDITIONAL STEPS IN THE ARMS CONTROL FIELD. ACCORDINGLY, SVART DISCUSSED PROPOSAL WITH SYG LUNS, WHO BELIEVED IT HAS MERIT. SVART AND LUNS AGREED IT SHOULD BE PURSUED CAUTIOUSLY AFTER A FURTHER "COOLING OFF PERIOD" IN THE WAKE OF THE FRENCH REJECTION OF THE EARLIER DANISH PROPOSALS. SVART SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY DISCUSS HIS PROPOSAL FURTHER ALSO WITH THE NORWEGIAN, FRG, AND UK PERMREPS, AND HE THOUGHT LUNS OR THE NORWEGIANS MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN PROPOSING THE SUGGESTION FORMALLY TO NAC LATER THIS YEAR.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE REFRAINED FROM PUSHING ANY PROCEDURAL STEP TO FOLLOW UP THE DANISH PROPOSALS, IN VIEW OF FRENCH OBJECTIONS. A PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STAFF COMPEN-
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DIUM OF PRESENT WESTERN ARMS CONTROL ACTIVITIES WOULD NEED TO BE ENDORSED BY THE COUNCIL BEFORE THE IS COULD INITIATE WORK AND THE FRENCH MIGHT EXPRESS RESERVATIONS, THOUGH THE RISKS OF A BLOCKING REJECTION WOULD BE LESS IN THE CASE OF A PROPOSAL FOR A FACTUAL SUMMARY. OTHER ALLIES ARE LIKELY TO BE INTERESTED IN SUCH AN INITIATIVE, WHICH COULD PROVIDE A BASIS FOR A GENERAL DISCUSSION

IN THE NAC OF WESTERN ARMS CONTROL ACTIVITIES LATER THIS
YEAR. WE WILL REQUEST SPECIFIC GUIDANCE ON ANY SUCH
PROPOSAL WHEN IT IS ADVANCED FORMALLY. END COMMENT.
STREATOR

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